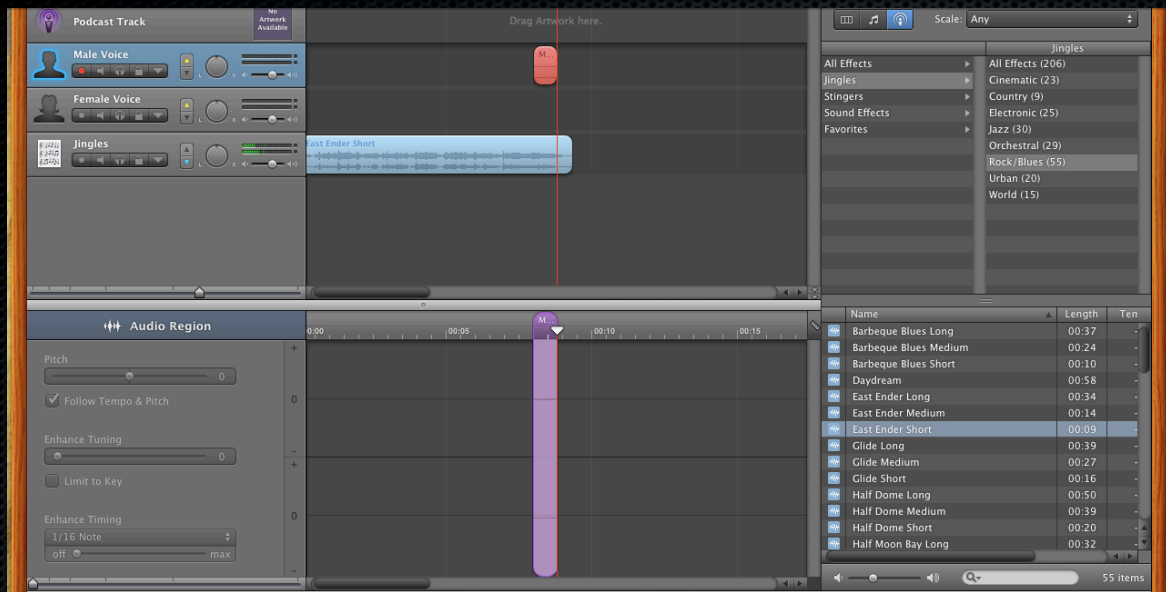


PODCASTS IN THE CLASSROOM

A short intro to using GarageBand



Podcasts in the Classroom

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What?

Wikipedia says that; The term "podcasting" was first mentioned by Ben Hammersley in The Guardian newspaper in a February 2004 article, along with other proposed names for the new medium. It is a collage of the words "pod"—derived from iPod, a brand of portable media player produced by Apple,—and "broadcasting". The name may be misleading, as despite the etymology it has never been necessary to use an iPod, or, indeed, any other form of portable media player, to use podcasts; the content can be accessed using any computer that can play media files.

Why?

Podcasts can be a great way to get students motivated in project based learning initiatives.

They are a great way for students to express themselves, give information or to present their research to classmates.

They are also a good way to personalize for specific students who are unable to perform a presentation/oral assessment.

Podcasting can be used for:

1. Self-Guided Walking Tours - Informational content.

2. *Music* - Band promotional clips and interviews.

3. *Talk Shows* - Industry or organizational news, investor news, sportscasts, news coverage and commentaries.

4. Training- Instructional informational materials.

5. **Story** - Story telling for children or the visually impaired.

To download my Keynote presentation on Podcasting, visit my Wikispace at:

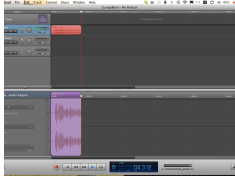
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How?

Apple computers are very user friendly in general, but, if you are not used to making recordings on your computer, there are many tutorials available on the web either on apple's website or on YouTube.



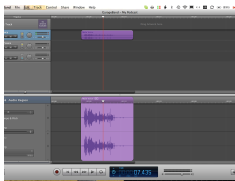
First off, audio recording requires a decent computer with ample memory. I will suggest getting a computer like an Apple computer or a Mac ;c). Apple computers come with the option of getting a software bundle called iLife...get it, it's worth it! In this bundle, you will find an application called



“GarageBand”. It is a simplified recording software with many cool features. One of these features is a preset Podcast recording option.

When GarageBand loads-up, you will notice that you have four tracks to start with. The Podcast track is for pictures, there is a male voice track, a female voice track and a jingles track. The male and female voice tracks have slightly different EQ settings.

To begin recording, select the track you wish to record on and press the red recording button at the bottom of the screen or the R key on the keyboard. Press the spacebar to stop recording.



You can move your newly recorded file by clicking and dragging. Let’s do so to make room for an intro jingle!

Clicking on the “Loop Browser” in the bottom right of the screen will open a list of available loops and sound files already in your computer!

Choose a file and insert it in the “Jingles” track. GarageBand will automatically lower the volume of the Jingles track when it overlaps another track! You can have full length background music if you wish or just intro and outro music.



To publish their work, students can “export Podcast to Disk...” and save it to a USB drive, CD or even email it to themselves.

They can choose the compression algorithm that suits them best (quality) and choose an audio setting for their purpose. Export and you are done! That's it!

Giddy-up!

With the finished product, you can have a listening session with your classes or you can post the Podcasts on a class wiki! It can also be used as a method to keep in touch with a hospitalized student.

I've also burned CD's to students on which their final product could be found but there are more, cost effective, solutions out there.

REFERENCES

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